IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: THEODORE S. WEBB ET AL.

Filed: NOVEMBER 2, 2001

For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR USING DISTRIBUTED INTERCONNECTS IN INFORMATION MANAGEMENT ENVIRONMENTS

Serial No.: 10/003,683

Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Atty Docket No.: SURG:162

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.8, I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a first class, postage prepaid envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date below:

2-22-02	Marty Bowen
Date	Name

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

No fees are believed due in conjunction with this filing, however, should any additional fees under 37 CFR 1.16-1.21 be required for any reason, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fees from O'Keefe, Egan & Peterman Deposit Account No. 10-1205/SURG:162.

I. AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification in the attached sheet (additions underlined, deletions bracketed). A clean version of the all of the specification is as follows.

This application is a continuation-in-part of co-pending United States Patent Application Serial Number 09/879,810 filed on June 12, 2001 which is entitled "SYSTEMS AND